

Amendment And Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application:

1. **(currently amended)** A method to impart anti-microbial activity to the surface of a polyethylene object which consists essentially of:

a. applying to the surface a liquid **composition** [carrier] containing from 15 to 65 weight percent of an anti-microbial composition **in a liquid carrier selected from the class consisting essentially of water and hydrocarbon solvent in sufficient quantity to permit brushing, spraying or dipping of said liquid composition onto said surface** to form a [composition] coating on said surface having a thickness from 0.1 to 5 mils, said anti-microbial composition comprising:

I. from 0.5 to 5 weight percent of an anti-microbial metal selected from the group consisting of elemental and ionic silver, zinc, copper and cadmium deposited on a solid carrier, and

ii. from 95 to 99.5 weight percent of a polyethylene fusible solid selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon resin having a viscosity at 177 degrees C. in excess of 50 centipoises, polyethylene having a melt index less than 30 grams/min, and mixtures thereof; and

b. heating the surface **of the polyethylene object** to a temperature at least 250 degrees F. for sufficient time to **raise the temperature of the coating and outer skin of the surface of the polyethylene object to the melt temperature of polyethylene to**

fuse the coating into the wall of said object.

2. **(original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said anti-microbial metal is silver.

3. **(original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said carrier solid is an ion-exchange solid and said anti-microbial metal is ion-exchanged onto said carrier solid.

4. **(original)** The method of claim 3 wherein said ion-exchange solid is zeolite.

5. **(original)** The method of claim 3 wherein said anti-microbial metal includes zinc.

6. **(original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said polyethylene fusible solid is polyethylene.

7. **(original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said polyethylene fusible solid includes a hydrocarbon resin.

8. **(currently amended)** In a rotational molding method for fabrication of a hollow form polyethylene object [plastic product] in a rotational molding cycle wherein polyethylene particles are charged to a rotational mold, the mold is closed, heated to a molding temperature while being rotated about its major and minor axes for a time sufficient to form said polyethylene object [molded product] and the mold is cooled to a demolding temperature, opened and the

polyethylene object [molded product] is ejected, the improved method for imparting anti-microbial activity to the exterior surface of said **polyethylene object** [molded product] which consists essentially of:

10 applying to a selected area of the interior surface of said rotational mold at substantially the demolding temperature a coating having a thickness from 0.1 to 5 mils **of an anti-microbial composition** [and] comprising

15 I. from 0.5 to 5 weight percent of an anti-microbial metal selected from the group consisting of elemental and ionic silver, zinc, copper and cadmium deposited on a solid carrier, and

20 ii. from 95 to 99.5 weight percent of a polyethylene fusible solid selected from the group consisting of a hydrocarbon resin having a viscosity at 177 degrees F. in excess of 50 centipoises, polyethylene having a melt index less than 30 grams/min., and mixtures thereof; and

25 b. continuing said rotational molding cycle to obtain a molded, hollow form **polyethylene object** [plastic product] having said anti-microbial composition **transferred from said interior surface of said rotational mold and permanently** fused into the **surface** [wall] of said **polyethylene object** [product].

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said anti-microbial metal is silver.

10.(original) The method of claim 8 wherein said carrier solid is an ion-exchange solid and said anti-microbial metal is ion-exchanged onto said carrier solid.

11.(original) The method of claim 10 wherein said ion-exchange solid is zeolite.

12.(original) The method of claim 10 wherein said anti-microbial metal includes zinc.

13.(previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein said polyethylene fusible solid is polyethylene.

14.(previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein said polyethylene fusible solid includes a hydrocarbon resin.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said polyethylene fusible solid has a melt index less than 20 grams/min.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 herein said polyethylene fusible solid has a melt index less than 20 grams/min.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said hydrocarbon resin is selected as said polyolefin fusible solid.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein said hydrocarbon resin is selected as said polyolefin fusible solid.

19. **(previously presented)** The method of claim 1 wherein said liquid carrier is a hydrocarbon solvent.
20. **(previously presented)** The method of claim 1 wherein said liquid carrier is a water containing from 0.1 to 2 weight percent of a surfactant sufficient to form a stable dispersion of said anti-microbial composition.
21. **(previously presented)** The method of claim 19 wherein said liquid carrier contains from 25 to 35 weight percent of said anti-microbial composition.
22. **(previously presented)** The method of claim 20 wherein said liquid carrier contains from 25 to 35 weight percent of said anti-microbial composition
23. **(new)** The method of claim 8 wherein said coating is applied to the selected area of the interior surface of said rotational mold by spraying said area with a liquid carrier containing from 15 to 65 weight percent of said anti-microbial composition.
24. **(new)** The method of claim 23 wherein said liquid is a hydrocarbon solvent.
25. **(new)** The method of clam 24 wherein said hydrocarbon solvent is hexane.